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## California State Senate



## SENATOR S. JOSEPH SIMITIAN

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February 7, 2007

Ms. Shahla Farahnak State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance 1001 I Street, 16th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 Ms. Tracie Billington
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Local Assistance
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

RE: Santa Cruz County Integrate Regional Water Management Plan Implementation Grant

To Ms. Farahnak and Ms. Billington:

I am writing to express my continued, strong support for Implementation Grant funding for projects identified in the Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. I understand that these projects are being recommended by staff for approval at a level of \$12.5 million. I hope that the staff's recommendation will be approved at the February 20 board meeting.

All of the projects represented in the IRWMP have multiple benefits and are a high priority in the region. Among the most important is a water project for the community of Davenport. Davenport's water quality is below standard and they need a treatment facility to address this issue. I am especially supportive of this proposal because of the cooperation between local agencies and the partnerships that have formed. These projects have been prioritized by the County of Santa Cruz Department of Public Works and recommended for funding by the Board of Supervisors.

The partner agencies have established an institutional structure and planning mechanism to guide the effort and incorporate changes. This demonstrates a judicious and common sense approach to the project and ultimately reflects the most efficient use of Proposition 50 funds.

I encourage you to give this project every consideration.

Sincerely,

S. Joseph Simitian State Senator, Eleventh District

SJS:sd

CC: Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District Supervisor Neal Coonerty